



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE UPDATE

UPDATE ON SEWER MAIN BREAK IN RIO VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD

December 15, 2019, 10:30 a.m.

Following is an update on City operations related to the 54-inch sewer main break, located on Ponce de Leon Drive between SE 9 Avenue and SE 12 Way in the Rio Vista neighborhood.

Site Operations and Containment

- Work continued through the overnight hours maintaining containment of the sewer main break discharge.
- Adjustments made to the tidal valves, catch basins, and storm drains in the immediate area of the break are working as the south side of Ponce de Leon Drive is not experiencing repeat flooding.
- Other streets in the area remain dry.
- Crews will continue cleaning and sanitizing work today on the south side of Ponce de Leon Drive near the east end of Hector Park.
- Gravel has been laid in swales and along shoulders on the east and south sides of Hector Park to stabilize the area.
- Tanker and vacuum truck operations will continue today to remove discharge and transport it to other parts of the wastewater collection system.
- Pumps and diverters will continue to move discharge from catch basins and manholes in the affected area to sewer lines north and south of the break.

Repair Activities

- Repair parts are being fabricated and are expected to arrive on Monday, December 16.
- Concrete has been poured around the pipe saddle that was installed on the western portion of the 54-inch pipe to stabilize and hold it in place.
- Today, the contractor plans to use the saddle to install a 12-inch tap, which would take some of the spillage from the 54-inch pipe and divert it back into the system south of the break area.
- The contractor will also begin preparation work on the eastern portion of the pipe.

Environmental Cleanup and Aeration

- Environmental cleanup including disinfection, power washing, and street and sidewalk cleaning activities will continue today in the affected area with a focus on the south side of Ponce de Leon Drive near the east end of Hector Park.
- Nine aerators will continue to operate in the Tarpon River and New River. A tenth aerator is expected to be deployed and operational today.
- Aeration will help improve water quality by improving oxygen levels in the water, increasing circulation, breaking down organic matter in the discharge, and helping to control odor.
- Two vessels will conduct skimming and debris removal on the waterways in the area with a third vessel expected to be operational today.

Road Closure

-Ponce de Leon Drive remains closed between SE 9 Avenue and SE 12 Way while the work progresses.

Precautionary Advisory for Water-Related Recreational Activities

-A precautionary advisory for recreational activities in local waterways remains in effect.

-The boundaries are Broward Boulevard to the north, Poinciana Drive to the east, SE 15 Street to the south, and SW 18 Avenue to the west. Residents and businesses should avoid swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, canoeing, or engaging in any water-related activities within these boundaries.

-To view a map of the precautionary advisory area, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

-To view the update on the City's website, please visit <http://bit.ly/2rBJhLk>.

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